

Claims

[c1] What is claimed is:

A system comprising:

a first communication device associated with a first user wherein said first communication device has a physical location parameter and is configured to communicate with a second communications device associated with a second user;

a community engine server comprising a profile associated with said first user wherein said community engine server is configured to compare said profile with at least one affiliate profile and obtain a match result; and,

at least one affiliate server comprising said at least one affiliate profile associated with an affiliate user wherein said at least one affiliate server is configured to provide said at least one affiliate profile to said community engine server over a communication network.

[c2] The system of claim 1 wherein said first communication device is configured to transfer information with said second communication device upon selection of an alias associated within N-degrees of freedom of said match.

[c3] The system of claim 1 wherein said first communication

device is configured to allow a user to join a group based on said physical location parameter of said first communication device.

- [c4] The system of claim 1 wherein said first communication device is configured to transfer information directly with said second communications device.
- [c5] The system of claim 1 wherein said first communications device is configured to transform information indirectly with said second communications device.
- [c6] The system of claim 1 wherein said physical location parameter is a static postal code.
- [c7] The system of claim 1 wherein said physical location parameter is a dynamic physical location of said first communication device.
- [c8] The system of claim 1 wherein said communications network comprises a web service.
- [c9] The system of claim 1 wherein said community engine server comprises a scalable architecture.
- [c10] A system comprising:
 - a first communication device associated with a first user wherein said first communication device comprises a physical location parameter and is configured to com-

municate with a second communication device associated with a second user by asserting an alias associated within N-degrees of freedom of said first user and further configured to allow said first user to join a group based on said physical location parameter of said first communications device;

a community engine server comprising a profile associated with said first user wherein said community engine server is configured to compare said profile with at least one affiliate profile and obtain a match result; and, at least one affiliate server comprising said at least one affiliate profile associated with an affiliate user wherein said affiliate server is configured to provide said at least one affiliate profile to said community engine server over a communication network.

[c11] The system of claim 10 wherein said first communication device is configured to transfer information directly with said second communication device.

[c12] The system of claim 10 wherein said first communication device is configured to transfer information indirectly with said second communication device.

[c13] The system of claim 10 wherein said physical location parameter is a static postal code.

- [c14] The system of claim 10 wherein said physical location parameter is a dynamic physical location of said first communication device.
- [c15] The system of claim 10 wherein said communication network comprises a web service.
- [c16] The system of claim 10 wherein said community engine server comprises a scalable architecture.
- [c17] A method comprising:
obtaining an affiliate profile from an affiliate server;
transforming said affiliate profile to a transformed affiliate profile;
caching said transformed affiliate profile in a cache in a community engine server;
accessing a first user profile in said community engine server;
comparing said first user profile to said transformed affiliate profile; and,
generating a match result based on said comparing.
- [c18] The method of claim 17 wherein said obtaining said affiliate profile comprises accessing a web service hosted on said affiliate server from said community engine server.
- [c19] The method of claim 17 wherein said transforming fur-

ther comprises the use of XSLT.

- [c20] The method of claim 17 wherein said caching further comprises accessing a database.
- [c21] The method of claim 17 wherein said accessing is based upon a user associated with said first user profile manipulating a communication device interface.
- [c22] The method of claim 17 wherein said comparing is performed within at least one group associated with said first user profile.
- [c23] The method of claim 17 wherein said comparing is performed based on a physical location parameter of a communication device.
- [c24] The method of claim 17 wherein said generating is performed when a user associated with said first user profile accesses said community engine server.
- [c25] The method of claim 17 wherein said generating is performed asynchronously by said community engine server.
- [c26] A method comprising:
 - accessing a first user profile in a community engine server;
 - accessing a group profile in said community engine

server;
comparing said first user profile to said group profile in
said community engine server; and,
generating a match result based on said comparing.

[c27] The method of claim 26 further comprising:
inviting a user to join a group associated with said group
profile based on said match result.

[c28] A method comprising:
accessing a first user profile in a community engine
server;
accessing a second user profile in said community en-
gine server;
comparing said first user profile to a group profile asso-
ciated with said second user profile in said community
engine server; and,
generating a match result based on said comparing.

[c29] The method of claim 28 further comprising:
inviting a user to join a group associated with said group
profile based on said match result.

[c30] A system comprising:
means for obtaining an affiliate profile from an affiliate
server;
means for transforming said affiliate profile to a trans-

formed affiliate profile;
means for caching said transformed affiliate profile in a cache in a community engine server;
means for accessing a first user profile in said community engine server;
means for comparing said first user profile to said transformed affiliate profile; and,
means for generating a match result based on said comparing.

[c31] A system comprising:
means for accessing a first user profile in a community engine server;
means for accessing a group profile in said community engine server;
means for comparing said first user profile to said group profile in said community engine server; and,
means for generating a match result based on said comparing.

[c32] The system of claim 31 further comprising:
means for inviting a user to join a group associated with said group profile based on said match result.

[c33] A system comprising:
means for accessing a first user profile in a community engine server;

means for accessing a second user profile in said community engine server;

means for comparing said first user profile to a group profile associated with said second user profile in said community engine server; and,

means for generating a match result based on said comparing.

[c34] The system of claim 33 further comprising:

means for inviting a user to join a group associated with said group profile based on said match result.